



**The MEDINA HIGH SCHOOL BANDS  
HANDBOOK for PARENTS**

***“BEE” IN THE KNOW!!***

**WELCOME!**

Welcome to the band! Medina High School has an outstanding music program and an outstanding record in musical achievements. With such an extensive program, this brochure defines and explains “all things band-related”.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Medina High School** features five complete bands:

- Football Season:
  - Marching Band
- Concert Season:
  - Symphony Band
  - Concert Band
  - Concert Winds
  - Freshman Band

Directors for each of the concert season bands prepare their own calendar for sectional and extra rehearsals. Auditions for concert season bands and the Jazz Bands are scheduled by the directors. Students will be notified in advance of the auditions.

### UNIFORM INFORMATION

Lots to know here! Medina High School musicians not only sound great, they look great too! Here are some of the basics of uniform wear and care.

Marching Band Uniforms and Concert Formal Wear Attire are the property of the Medina Band Parents Association (MBPA) – your children rent them. You and your child(ren) sign a Uniform Contract which is returned to the MBPA with payment of fees by the deadline stated in the contract. Additional accessories must be purchased through the MBPA as part of the uniform or Concert Attire and are the property of your child(ren). See Contract for the required list of accessories. Please note that failure to submit the contract and fees results in your child(ren) being ineligible to perform. Uniform Fees – used for rental, cleaning and maintenance of the marching uniforms and concert attire - are separate from the Pay-To-Play fees charged by the Medina City Schools.

Students are fitted for Marching Band Uniforms and Concert Formal Wear Attire during Music Camp in July. Any

alterations to the Uniforms or Concert Attire are to be made by the Uniform Committee – no parent is to make or arrange for alterations.

Marching Band members are fitted for a uniform based upon the instrument they play. **Marching Band raincoats, raincoat bags and hat bags (if applicable) are sent home with students and it is the responsibility of the student to take the utmost care of these items while in their possession.**

**Wet Uniforms Policy and Procedures** - In the event of wet weather, either rain or snow, the Wet Uniform Policy will be put into effect at the discretion of the Uniform Committee. Your child(ren) will bring their wet uniform home along with instructions that must be strictly adhered to. We kindly ask for your help should this situation occur as we do not have the facilities to properly dry approx. 300 uniforms.

- A. **Raincoats** – To avoid mold and mildew damage, wet raincoats must be hung on plastic hangers and air-dried completely before being put back into the raincoat bag. Turn the raincoat inside out halfway thru drying process.
- B. **Uniforms** – All or part of a uniform may be sent home. The only parts of the uniform that will not be sent home are the band hat and plume.
  1. **DO NOT** take your uniform to a dry cleaner or use home dry cleaning kits. **Absolutely no machine washing or drying.**
  2. Uniforms are to be **taken home immediately and hung immediately.** **DO NOT** leave wet uniforms in cars or car trunks!
  3. Hang uniform parts ***only*** on hangers provided by the uniform committee. Wire hangers will damage the uniform.
  4. **DO NOT** remove instruction tags from hangers.
  5. **Separate** uniform pants and coat.

6. **AVOID** wet parts of a uniform touching each other. Color bleeding can occur from black pants to white jackets. Black dye from the pants will **permanently** ruin the uniform coat. Students will be fined by MBPA if this occurs.
7. **Never** put a damp or wet uniform in a garment bag or closet.
8. **DRIP DRY ONLY** in a well-ventilated, non-carpeted, clean area for at least 48 hrs. until perfectly dry. There is a chance the pants may bleed green dye onto the floor.
9. If pants are muddy, let **DRIP DRY** completely, then *gently* brush off mud with a fabric safe brush or clean cloth.
10. Students are to **return uniforms dry** and in **excellent condition** to school on the day of the next scheduled performance.

In addition to the required accessories, black crew length socks are to be worn and are considered part of the uniform. You are responsible for supplying your own socks. It is also highly recommended that **you label your Dinkles (black marching shoes) with your name.** The Marching Band tee-shirt and a pair of shorts are to be worn under the uniform. In cooler weather, a white long-sleeved shirt may be worn under the Marching Band tee-shirt. Leggings, long underwear, pajama pants and/or sweat pants may be worn under the Marching Band Uniform pants, but must not be visible in any way under the uniform pants. Girls are to wear their hair in French braids.

Although students are expected to be responsible for bringing all required accessories to every performance, there are some items available for rental or purchase just in case. For marching band, these items include dinkles, raincoats, socks, gloves, berets and band t-shirts. For concert season, these items include bowties, cummerbunds and character shoes. Rental items are to be returned at the end of each performance. Failure to do so will result in additional rental fees until the item is returned.

All Marching Band Uniforms, along with the Auxiliary Uniforms are picked up at the school and returned after every game/performance. Students are informed about arrival times for uniform pick-up usually two to three days before a performance. Students change into their uniforms at school unless otherwise stipulated by the Band Directors. Boys dress in the band room and girls use the orchestra room to change.

Uniforms for Beeliners and Stingers (the Auxiliary) are detailed in a separate Uniform Contract. Since these groups meet prior to Music Camp, advisors will supply uniform requirements to the students. Beeliners and Stingers are also issued a Marching Band raincoat and raincoat bag. The same care is expected as outlined earlier.

All Marching Band and Auxiliary members are subject to inspection prior to each performance. All members are to have required accessories including their raincoat for every performance. **At the end of Marching Season, members will turn in their assigned raincoat.**

Marching Band season is filled with excitement and fun. A great way for parents to be involved is to become a Uniform Volunteer. You can sign up at the Dessert Kick-Off, contact a member of the Uniform Committee or uniform volunteer coordinator.

Concert Season Formal Wear fittings (for both marching participants and Concert only participants) occur during Music Camp at the end of July. Girls are fitted for a black, concert gown. Boys are fitted for a tuxedo coat and pants. **Concert attire is sent home with the students after fittings and alterations (if needed). It is the responsibility of the student to take the utmost care of their concert attire while in their possession.** Accessories required for girls include black character shoes purchased through the MBPA. No other black shoes may be worn. Boys must purchase from the MBPA a tuxedo shirt, black bow tie and black cummerbund. See the Uniform Fee Worksheet and Contract for details. Black dress socks and black dress shoes are

also required for each male student. You are responsible for providing these.

Symphony Band female members are required to purchase a costume white pearl necklace and earrings from the MBPA. Symphony Band male members are issued a white pocket handkerchief that is to be returned at the end of concert season. These items intentionally distinguish the Symphony Band from Concert Band and Concert Winds.

Female members of Concert Band and Concert Winds are permitted to wear tasteful, understated jewelry. Female members of all concert bands may wear their hair up or down, but any hair accessories should match hair color or *must be black*. Students are expected to arrive at school in complete concert dress unless otherwise stipulated by their Band Director.

Stardusters and Jazz Band members receive uniform requirements after try-outs in the fall.

**Concert Season Formal Wear will be collected immediately following the last concert performance in May. Students must bring a change of clothes that evening.**

## **SPIRIT WEAR**

What better way to show your support for our awesome Musical Bees, Spirit wear! From blankets to seat pads to clothing, you can advertise your love and take comfort, too! They make terrific gifts also, so remember that Spirit wear is for sale during Dessert Kick-Off and at every home game. Make sure you purchase your yard sign signifying which section of the band your child plays in too – show your band pride! Opportunities to order will be announced – you won't miss it! Students should ask their section leaders if Spirit wear for their particular instrument section will be made available. These can be big hits when offered!!

## **HOME & AWAY GAMES**

Football games are held every weekend from the end of August through October. Marching occurs at both home games and away games. Students must ride the school-provided bus to all away

games. A pre-game show is performed then the Band marches a portion of that year's show during half time. Students **MUST** sit with the Band during games but have "Third-Quarter Privileges" – they can roam the stadium, buy food and socialize during the third quarter of the game. It is mandatory that students be back and seated in the bandstand by the fourth quarter.

During the other quarters, the Band performs to get the crowd and cheerleaders excited and of course, the fight song for each point scored by the Medina Bees! Spirit Wear and Krispy Kreme donuts (yum!) are for sale at home games. Both are important fundraisers for the Medina Band Parents Association.

At away games, the show is always played to the home stadium so many parents move to that side for half time to cheer our Musical Bees!

## **EVENTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER**

The following events are listed in chronological order throughout the school year calendar and on our musicalbees.org webpage. The definition of each event is given as well as what parents are responsible for and what to expect. Remind your son or daughter that he or she is required to arrive promptly each day and is expected to perform with enthusiasm and obey the band directors and student directors. Much is learned in a short amount of time and cooperation is vital. If you ask any veteran marching band student, you will be told that an element of fun is always present! It's an amazing thing to be part of a successful band.

## **MUSIC CAMP**

Marching band season begins in late July with music camp, a one-week crash course in learning the music for that year's performance through small groups and ensembles. Practices are mandatory. No marching takes place yet. Please check the

schedule for woodwind, brass and percussion rehearsal times. Snacks may be purchased during break time.

## **BAND CAMP**

The next two weeks are called Band Camp and marching begins. Specific maneuvers are learned along with accompanying music - it is an intensive process and takes place in the parking lot outside the Performing Arts Center. Parents often gather near the end of the evening practice to cheer the children on as the show is perfected during the second week. While the schedule is changeable, in general, practice for all is from 8am to noon, with Check Offs in the afternoon and more practice from 6:00-8:30pm. Band Camp is mandatory. Socks and tennis shoes are required. Students bring side-walk chalk for marking their positions, as well as sunscreen, sunglasses and hats. Make sure your son or daughter has plenty of water and snacks, or money to purchase some. It gets very hot being on the asphalt for three to four hours a day.

## **CHECK OFFS**

Students are required to play music from memory from the current show for Check off Staff. Students sign up for a time each day a check off is required. Only when the piece is played successfully from memory can it be “checked off” the required list. Fifteen minutes are allowed for a Check Off. The goal is for the student to play a piece successfully. Directors, Check Off Staff or Section Leaders are more than happy to help.

## **BAND PHOTOGRAPH**

Individual, entire band and sectional photos are taken usually the first full week of Band Camp. Forms are sent home at the beginning of the week and are similar to youth sports procedure for team photographs. Uniforms are to be worn during the photo shoot. Parents LOVE to wear their photo buttons featuring their kids, which are also available for purchase!

## **DESSERT KICK-OFF**

A fun night full of information! Held part way through Band Camp in August, each family brings a dessert to share; drinks are provided. This is when all band events are explained and you have the opportunity to sign up to volunteer for specific dates and times that are good for you. BRING YOUR CALENDARS AND CHECKBOOKS! Spirit Wear and yard signs can be ordered and you can take care of other fees all at once. Students have evening practice during the event then join families and finish off whatever desserts are left! You will be introduced to all chairpersons and officers of the Medina Band Parents Association. It’s a great night!

## **BAND PICNIC**

A celebration for our hard working students and directors! It is held at Medina Assembly of God picnic area, usually on a Thursday around 6:00 p.m., the last week of Band Camp. This event is chaperoned and students are “given the evening off” in order to celebrate with food, games and socializing. Usually pizza, pop, music and good times are enjoyed for a job well done and a disc jockey provides the tunes. Parents are more than welcome to provide snacks, desserts and side dishes.

The Picnic is funded by the Medina Band Parents Association, donations (both monetary and other) from local businesses and Band Parent volunteers and/or their donations. If you want to participate, volunteers are always needed to be on this committee – and its fun, too! You can contact the Chairperson or just sign up at the Dessert Kick-Off!

## **TAG DAY**

It is mandatory for your student to participate in Tag Day – but it’s something the kids love! Pairing up, students are stationed at various business locations in Medina (Buehler’s, around the Square, etc.) asking for donations. Students sign-up for two-hour shifts and dress in uniform and at some locations even play their instruments to “drum” up donations! Snacks and drinks are to be provided by parents – it can get hot in September!

This is a major fundraiser for the Band with a 40-plus year history of success! Parent volunteers are needed for driving students to locations, counting money raised and registration. This is a one-time, easy volunteer opportunity, so join in.....You won't regret it!

## **BAND SHOW**

Several area high schools, and sometimes colleges, are invited to perform at the Ken Dukes Stadium on the grounds of Medina High School. Different bands attend each year. Not all bands are competitive – some are show bands and their theatrical maneuvers are as delightful as the precision of those who compete. As the host of this spectacular event, the Medina Musical Bees competitive marching band performs last as the hosting band. This is a terrific opportunity for the Band to perform its first “official” presentation before heading off to competitions.

The Band Show is our biggest fundraisers. As parents, you have many fun opportunities to volunteer here – concessions, band escorts, runners, decorations, tickets, 50/50 raffle, pre and post cleanups, etc. Some time commitments are larger than others. Trophies are given for participation. Proceeds go to the Band Parents Association whose primary focus is to support the Band Program.

Traditionally, the seventh and eighth grade bands from Claggett Middle School and AI Root Middle School perform the National Anthem at the opening ceremonies and flag raising. This prepares the future high school marching band members to feel comfortable performing in public.

Opening ceremonies begin at 7:00 p.m. and after the flag rising, the bands play their selections with each band given roughly fifteen minutes to perform.

A standard concession is provided, with hot dogs, pizza, nachos and cheese, pop and hot chocolate. Medina Band Spirit wear is also offered for sale so you can stock up for Christmas gift giving. A 50/50 Raffle is held. The winning ticket collects half of the “take” and it is usually a fairly substantial amount!

A ten-minute intermission allows you to use the facilities or purchase food without missing a beat of the wonderful music!

## **BAND PARENTS NIGHT**

You and your sacrifices are not ignored! On this special night held near the end of football season, Marching Band students form an “M” on the field and parents are invited to stand on the field next to their son or daughter. While there, the band performs for you! Senior student and parent names are announced. On a fun note, students have the opportunity to order and pre-pay for carnations to present to their moms that night! All are applauded. It's a touching and beautiful evening.

## **COMPETITIONS**

The Medina Senior High School Musical Marching Bees is a COMPETITION BAND. This stellar Band competes in three to four competitions each season in addition to performing at every, single football game, community parades and a variety of other performances. At each competition, the Band is evaluated on music, percussion, marching and maneuvering, general effect and best auxiliary by a panel of judges. The Band is competing against other bands as well as a goal of obtaining a score to qualify to compete at the state competition (OMEA).

All competitions are announced at the beginning of the season. Competitions are held on Saturdays and the Band travels by bus to these events. Parents attend for support and the students love that! Trophies are awarded based upon performance. Keep your fingers crossed! For all competitions, Jason Locher provides a packet including directions that is available in the band room on the day of the competition. Earning a “1” rating in any competition qualifies the band to compete in State Competition.

## **HOMECOMING PARADE**

The Band always marches in this parade which is held the Thursday evening previous to the Homecoming Game. The parade begins on the Medina Square and ends at Ken Dukes Stadium,

behind Medina Senior High School, where a pep rally and bonfire help celebrate! Attendance is mandatory. Besides, it's a lot of fun!

## **HOMECOMING**

Homecoming – The Band performs in the Homecoming Game just as in other football games. Watch for the “Trombone Suicide” – a real crowd-pleasing trombone performance! The half-time show features a lighter fare than the competition show & is loved by all!

## **SENIOR NIGHT**

As the football season ends, senior band students are recognized by name and march with a balloon tied to their instruments at one of the home football games. How fun and a great way to acknowledge their accomplishments!

## **STATE COMPETITION**

If the Band qualifies, this performance is held the last weekend in October or the first weekend in November. (It would be either one of two Friday evenings or one of two Saturdays.) Held at Dublin Coffman High School, students are bussed, stopping for dinner and shopping at a large mall on the way to and back from the competition (Polaris & Easton Town Center). Send money with your children! Many parents travel to State Competition to cheer on our Musical Bees – with their 15 straight superior ratings (2002-2016) and the shopping is great, too!

There are four classes of bands: AA, A, B, and C. The music chosen for the performance dictates the class, with Medina performing in class AA, the most difficult!

## **BAND BANQUET**

This beautiful, catered event is held at the end of the season at Medina Senior High School. Reservations must be made and the money is collected before this special event. After a delicious meal everyone moves to the Performing Arts Center where highlights of the Marching Band season are reviewed. Individuals are recognized for contributions as the Band Directors present

participation and individual awards. Then, the kids take over! Student Band Officers present humorous awards to students. Then, a retrospective slide show, put together by a group of parents, is shown and available for purchase at a nominal fee. A terrific evening! Don't miss this!

## **CONCERT SEASON**

- Holiday Concert – takes place in December and all concert bands as well as Stardusters jazz band perform. Students are required to attend the entire concert.
- Winter Concert – held in February, all concert bands as well as both jazz bands perform. Students are required to attend the entire concert.
- OMEA Contest (Ohio Music Educators Association)
- Spring Concert is held in May (Senior Recognition Night)

## **DINNER & ALL THAT JAZZ**

The dinner is a spring fundraiser for the entire Medina Band program. Volunteer opportunities are available for serving, kitchen, and donations for raffle and auction items, with the evening entertainment provided by the Medina High School and Middle School jazz bands! It's a wonderful evening to spend with family and friends.

## **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**

The Band marches in the Memorial Day Parade, too, beginning in Medina Square and ending in Spring Grove Cemetery with a Memorial Service. The Band also plays several musical selections there. Water is provided for the students. The Parade starts at 10:00 a.m. and students wear full uniforms, including hats and gloves. Girls must French braid their hair. Our students share their talents on this important national observance with many community members and veterans and soldiers. It is a “must attend” event.

## GRADUATION

The Symphony Band, minus the graduating seniors, performs every other year at Commencement, which is held at a different location, such as the University of Akron. Held the Sunday before exams, the Symphony Band members are bussed to the location and play throughout the ceremonies.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## BEELINER & STINGER INFORMATION

Beeliners and Stingers really spice up the marching band shows with their fabulous moves! Beeliners focus on dance, with the Stingers spinning flags and other props. Auditions are held in May, and open to any student in the school. Students who are accepted will register for marching band on their class schedule, as the season lasts until early November. Both groups practice twice per week during the summer and then with the marching band during school in the fall.

## CHAPERONES

The directors can't be everywhere, which is why the chaperones are vital to the organization. Chaperones attend all "away" events (and actually ride the school busses!) and help supervise students at our concerts at home as well. Participate by becoming a chaperone – it's a great way to meet all of the kids and catch a few away football games!

## WHAT ARE BEEKEEPERS?

Beekeepers make up the workhorses of all the bands. They are the parent volunteers who load and unload the trucks and trailers, move all percussion and auxiliary equipment and field commander podiums to the fields before and after every football game and

every single competition, with no time off for inclement weather. Beekeepers take care that the equipment stays dry and is where it's supposed to be when it's supposed to be there. Beekeepers party hardy and have loads of fun!

## EVERY 3 YEARS IS A DISNEY YEAR

Hold onto your Mickey Ears! Every three years, the Marching Band and Stardusters Jazz Band travel to Disneyworld in Florida to perform at the Magic Kingdom! The band last went to Disney during March/April 2015. The trip takes about six days of their Spring Break. While this is not a required event, it is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** that your son or daughter attend because it's tons of fun. Comfy buses are chartered for the trip. Stops are made along the way. Chaperones accompany sight-seeing events while there. There are also specific fundraising opportunities during the year of the trip to help defray part of the cost.

## VOLUNTEERING

Want to meet people and have some laughs? Volunteer opportunities are as diverse as the people who attend! You may choose to work behind the concession stand or sell event or raffle tickets. How about helping out with one of our many fundraisers? Perhaps you'd like to handle the sale of Spirit Wear or help with uniforms, parking, be a Beekeeper for one game or several, videotaping, or even be a guest band escort at the Band Show. All are great ways to be involved and to get to know firsthand the kids your kids hang out with. Contact the Medina Band Parents Association to offer your time and talents.

## FEES AND FUNDRAISING

The school pays for teacher/band director salaries and transportation to/from games and band competitions, but everything else (summer band camp, music and props for the competitions, uniforms, equipment trailers, storage, and all other operating expenses) has to be funded through uniform fees and fundraising events coordinated by the Medina Band Parents

Association. The uniforms cost approx. \$600 each and are replaced every 10 years or so, requiring approx. \$15,000 to be set aside each year for this recurring future expense. Annual expenses (including the uniforms) are approx. \$60,000, of which student uniform fees cover only half. Fundraisers are held to cover the rest. The fundraisers mentioned above (Tag Day, the Band Show, and Dinner and All That Jazz), as well as the Patrons Program, and various other smaller initiatives, are how we make ends meet financially. As parents of students who are participating in the band program, your support and your encouragement of your family, neighbors, and business community to support these fundraising events is essential to the ongoing sustainability of the band program.

### **PATRONS**

Jump on the Band Wagon! Bee a band patron! Your donations go directly to maintaining and replacing uniforms, purchasing music, and acquiring the specialty instruments that help make the Musical Bees the pride of Medina. Four different levels of participation are available for all budgets and your name will be listed in our Band Show and concert season programs as well as on our website in recognition of your contribution.

### **MEDINA BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION**

The Medina Band Parents Association (MBPA) is a 100% volunteer organization made up of parents who support the Band Program through the organization of events, fundraisers, and dispersal of information. The Dessert Kick-off in August (mentioned above) is your best opportunity to meet all the chairpersons and officers of the MBPA, and to get involved by signing up to be a volunteer yourself. Board meetings are held monthly, except for September and December, and committees meet as needed. Should you still have questions or wish to express a concern, please feel free to contact any of the officers or the appropriate committee chairperson. Check out our website at [musicalbees.org](http://musicalbees.org).

<b>2017-2018 MEDINA BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION</b>		
President	Dan Mardovin	216-258-7445
Vice President	Michelle Mardovin	330-421-1808
Secretary	Christa Block	330-725-7348
Treasurer	Lisa Thompson	614-893-8267
Assistant Treasurer		
Marching Uniforms	Donna Toth Diane Boccio Cherri Obert	330-416-8194 330-590-7261 440-724-2328
Auxiliary Uniforms	Becki Fox Rochelle Rasper	216-650-0460 330-241-7195
Concert Season Formal Wear	Sue Kelly	330-391-0627
Chaperones	Lori Godshalk Sharon Alberts	330-328-4448 330-242-0653
Concert Volunteers	Stephanie Broderson	
Beekeepers	Joe Toth Dave Vogelgesang Ian Jones	440-343-2237 330-725-8234 330-350-1940
Band Camp Snacks	Diane Boccio	330-590-7261
Dessert Kick-Off	Dawn Reising	330-410-4055
Band Picnic	Stacy Yates Xanthe Phillips	330-304-7877 330-321-4576
Yard Signs / Props	Dave Baclawski	330-354-0632
Spirit Wear	Jill McGarr	440-212-3536
Band Show	Mike McClintock Cyndi McClintock	330-591-7607 330-591-7647
Tag Day	Brian Wallick	330-321-6534
Patron Program	Michelle Mardovin Dan Mardovin	330-421-1808 216-258-7445
Football Game 50/50 Raffle	Melissa Ziogas Jim Ziogas	330-952-1600 330-242-6460
Krispy Kreme Donut Sales	Kari Ballard Ward Ballard	330-391-2235 330-391-2234
DVD Production	Greg Fedor	330-828-6554
Spirit Committee	Kathy Breitenbucher Becki Fox	330-952-1121 216-650-0460
Dinner & All That Jazz	Stephanie Siefert	330-416-8318

Band Banquet	Stacy Neumeyer	440-915-5404
Middle School Rep (AI Root)	Amanda Kotick	330-321-5318
Middle School Rep (Claggett)		
Head Director of Bands	Jason Locher	locherj@medinabees.org
Assistant Director	Margaret Blasko	blaskom@medinabees.org
Complaint Department	Get Involved! Be a Volunteer! Make a Difference!	

